

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE
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LIMA AND QUITO PASS TO ASST. SECRETARY TODMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN), BR
SUBJECT: PRESS EDITORIALS AND COMMENTARY ON MRS. CARTER'S VISIT

1. SUMMARY. EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS GENERALLY WELCOMED MRS. CARTER'S VISIT BUT PREDICATED IT WILL BE LARGELY A GOODWILL EFFORT. SEVERAL PAPERS NOTED THAT SILVEIRA-VANCE DISCUSSIONS IN PARIS PREEMPTED ANY OPPORTUNITY FOR MRS. CARTER TO HAVE SERIOUS MEDIATIVE ROLE DURING HER DISCUSSIONS IN BRAZIL. O ESTADO CONCLUDED THAT VANCE-SILVEIRA DISCUSSIONS HAD CREATED A PROPER ATMOSPHERE FOR GOODWILL VISIT BY MRS. CARTER. END SUMMARY.

2. EDITORIAL REACTION TO MRS. CARTER'S VISIT HAS GENERALLY BEEN FAVORABLE. MAY 29 O GLOBO NOTED SUBSTANTIVE NATURE OF MRS. CARTER'S VISIT, AND SAID SHE WOULD BE EXPLAINING TO CHIEFS OF STATE THROUGHOUT LATIN AMERICA PRESIDENT'S IDEAS ENUCIATED IN HIS SPEECH AT NOTRE DAME. EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT MRS. CARTER WOULD STRESS HER HUSBAND'S
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DEVOTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THAT ONE COULD NO LONGER SPEAK ABOUT US FOREIGN POLICY WITHOUT TAKING THIS INTO ACCOUNT.

3. JORNAL DE BRASILIA MAY 31 SAUD THE VISIT OF MRS. CARTER IS ABLE, THROUGH SOLIDARITY THAT SHE INSPIRES, TO REKINDLE THE OLD FRIENDSHIP THAT LINKS BRAZIL AND THE

US. EDITORIAL CONCLUDED PRESIDENT CARTER MUST NOW CONSIDER THE MORE SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN US BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH LATIN AMERICA JUST AS HIS PREDECESSOR DID IN RELATION TO BRAZIL.

4. OTHER MAIN THEME OF EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS REVOLVED AROUND VANCE-SILVEIRA MEETING IN PARIS. ESTADO JUNE 2 STRESSED THAT IT HAD AFFIRMED MANY TIMES THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN BRAZIL AND US HAD NOT BEEN INITIATED BY THE MOU SIGNED BY KISSINGER AND SILVEIRA. PAPER ADDED "MEN ARE NOT IMMORTAL AND GOVERNMENTS ARE NOT ETERNAL", WITHIN THIS CONTEXT ESTADO COMPLEMENTED SILVEIRA FOR HIS STATEMENT THAT "IT IS NOT SO DIFFICULT FOR THE US AND AN AMERICAN TO UNDERSTAND BRAZIL. COUNTRIES APPEAR MUCH CLOSER THAN THEY ARE DISPOSED TO ADMIT." ESTADO CONCLUDED THAT THIS MUTUAL SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING AND CONCILIATION IS CREATING THE PROPER ATMOSPHERE FOR MRS. CARTER'S GOODWILL VISIT TO BRAZIL. ESTADO ADDED THAT IT HAD NEVER BELIEVED TENSIONS BETWEEN US AND GOB WERE ANYTHING BUT "ARTIFICIALLY AMPLIFIED AND EXACERBATED." ESTADO CLAIMED IT ALWAYS HAD BEEN THE OPINION THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT WAS NOT AN INITIATIVE OF THE US GOVERNMENT BUT A LEGISLATIVE DEMAND TO WHICH THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAD TO SUBMIT. ESTADO SAID THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT WAS "NOT SO UNJUST TO THE POINT OF JUSTIFYING THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S REACTIONS RENOUNCING US MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND DENOUNCING THE MILITARY PACT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES." EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT THE DIALOG UNCLASSIFIED

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BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAS BEEN REINITIATED.

5. COMMENTARY IN BOTH CORREIO BRAZILIENSE AND JORNAL DE BRASILIA NOTED THAT THE SILVEIRA-VANCE MEETING PREEMPTED THE NEED FOR ANY MORE SERIOUS MEDIATION BY MRS. CARTER DURING HER VISIT TO BRAZIL. TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS, ACCORDING TO CORREIO, HAD REACHED DECISIONS ON EVERYTHING THAT WAS CURRENTLY OF IMPORTANCE TO US/GOB RELATIONSHIP. JORNAL DE BRASILIA ADDED THAT DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS, DESPITE THE PUBLICITY GIVEN TO THE VISIT, DID NOT SEE GREAT POLITICAL IMPORTANCE IN IT AND NOTED THAT VISIT WOULD BE ESSENTIALLY A GOODWILL EFFORT. JORNAL ALSO NOTED THAT SECRETARY VANCE AND SILVEIRA WOULD SHORTLY MEET IN GRENADA TO AGAIN DISCUSS BILATERAL ISSUES. COLUMNIST COCLUDED THAT MRS. CARTER WILL HEAR THAT BRAZIL CONSIDERS ITSELF A TRADITIONAL FRIEND OF THE US AND WISHES TO CONTINUE AS SUCH. CRIMMINS

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